## 250th Anniversary Edition Norwich Bulletin

Union square was decided upon as the most central place of all. The Merchants hotel lot was on a narrow part of Main street, in a crowded and contracted locality. Already there was not clow room in that part of the city, and it was not considered good policy to locate a public building there, the tendency of which would be still more to centralize and crowd business into that neighborhood.

The old controversy with New London as to whether there should be one or two shire towns in the county, was renewed. In the procession at New London on July 4, 1865, appeared an excellent model of the old New London court house. The length of the model was ten feet, its breadth and height five feet. On each end was the following: Established in 1666—too old to go to Norwich." And on the roof was, "Fire proof and lobby proof"; "Senate all in but three." But in some mysterious way the model was brought to Norwich, being discovered one morning in Franklin square. It was moved from one place to another in the city and finally spent its last days on the West Side. The method of its removal from New London remained a secret, but it was rumored that Judge Holbrook "waded up the river and towed it up."

Daniel Mason's School in 1679-Schools 1746 Other Schools in the 18th Century-Dyar Harris' School Which John T. Wait Attended-Schools Public and Private in 19th Century -The School System as It Is Today.

In many parts of New England, for one reason or another, the general interest in education seemed to languish for a period after the first generation passed sway. Perhaps the people found themselves too busy for "larnin" in the various activities of a new land; perhaps it was difficult to find stod teachers. But until late in the 18th century schools seem to have been kept aut intermittently, and references to them are few. In 1700 Norwich was actually indicted by the grand jury of the county "for want of a school to instruct chiefen." The achool house was repaired by David Knight and Solomon Tracy and in 1709 the town voted to "have a school-master according to law," and Richard Bushnell is again employed.

In 1712, it was voted that "a good and sufficient schoolmaster be appointed to keep school the whole years and from years to years, one halfs the time in the Tewn Platt, the other halfs at the farma in the several quarters." In 1714, a rate of 40s, on a thousand pounds is voted "for ye maintaining of ye schoolmaster what fails in ye sum agreed for, and ye farmers have liberty to send their children free of cost."

In 1746, the town appointment for schgols was as follows:

children free of cost."
In 1746, the town appointment for schools was as follows:
"School at the Landing Place to be kept 3 months, 17 days.
"Two schools in the Town Plot, one at each end, 5 1-2 months each.
"School at Plain Hills, 2 months 19 days.

hoel at Waweekus Hill, I month

15 days. "School at Great Plain, 2 months 18 days. "School at Wequanuk, 2 months 15

"School at Wequanuk, 2 months 15 days.

"School on the Windham Road, 2 menths 11 days."

A school mistress received but half the pay of a master, and so was required to teach twice as many weeks.

No one knows just where these carly school houses stood. One of them was "at the east end of the Town Plot, very likely near the Green, and possibly they near the Green, and possibly likely near the Green, and possibly where the old brick building stands, formerly used as a school house. But the names of a number of the school teachers have come down to us.

in 1774 an evening school was advertised, to be taught by Thomas Evre, at the rate of 1s. per week for a class numbering at least ten pupils, special attention being given to arithmetic, algebra and geometry. In the same year, at Lathrop's tavern, Jahez Smith was teaching "Pasimody, the scale, fite and German flute." Another school-master, Jared Bostwick by name, died "greatly lamented in August, 1778, at the age of 27."

Even during the stirring days of the Revolution the schools were not neg-

Even during the stirring days of the Revolution the schools were not neglected. In 1783 a school was conducted in the brick schoolhouse "a few rolls north of the courthouse," "upon the most extensive plan and liberal construction," "for the reception of a large number of young Gentlemen and Ladies, Lads and Misses: where is taught by experienced Instructors, in the most madern manner, every branch of literature, viz. reading, writing ef literature, viz., treading, writing, arithmetic, the learned languages, rhetoric, logic, geography, mathematicks, &c. The pupils were also taught the rules of decency, decorum and marality." In this school taught and norality." In this school taught Charles White and a Mr. Goodrich. The exhibitions of this school were very elaborate, the young people often taking part in theatrical representations. Miss Caulkins, in the first ention of her History of Norwich, described one and exhibition "when

A more advanced school, including in its studies Latin and Greek, mathematics and navigation, was established in the western part of the town plot in 1782, and continued for about thirty, years. This school was under the care of an "academical association, consisting of forty-one subscribers and one hundred shares or rights." The first principal was Samuel Austin. At a later date the position was held by Newcomb Kinney, afterwards the popular manager of the Merchants hotel. For a schoolhouse the association pur-

foundation of £500 which had been left as a legacy for the purpose by Dr. Daniel Lathrep at his death five years earlier. This school was held in the earlier. This school was held in the brick schoolhouse on the green, and among the teachers were Ebenezer Punderson. Charles White. Newcomb Kinney, Mr. Hunt, Alexander McDonald, and William Baldwin. Of these teachers William Baldwin was perhaps the most noted a thorough scholar, but stern and austere, more respected than loved by his scholars. Among his pupils were Lydia Huntley, afterwards Mrs. Sigourney, the Rev. Dr. Nevins of Baltimore, the Hon, Jabez Huntington and the Hon. Henry Strong on Norwich, Gardner and Samuel Howland of New York, the projectors and principal owners of the Panama railroad.

This school dld a most excellent work This school did a most excellent work for about half a century, but was finally given up, owing to the restrictions in the will, which provided that the school should be "kept 11 months in Each Year, and 8 hours in each day from the 20th of March to the 20th of September, and from the 21st of September to the 20th of March, 6 hours in each day, that is to say as nearly that space of time in each day as may Reasonably be expected."

Some time between the years of 1789 and 1795 the little brick schoolhouse situated a few rods north of Hariand's corner was built, on land purchased for the purpose from Thomas Leffingwell for the sum of £6. Here Mrs. Sigourney's education was begun, and she has left for us a description of the schoolhouse, with its unpainted desks and benches on three sides of the room and on the other a recess for the teacher's desk, a closet for books, a water pitcher and a capacious fireplace. She also describes her first teacher, to

The history of education in Norwich, of schools by public and private, begins almost with the original purchase of the nine miles square in 1659. Many of the earliest teachers were women who held the position for life, often having in their charge the children and sometimes the grandfulliform of the schoolhouse, with its unpainted design and norther having in their charge the children and sometimes the grandfulliform of the schoolhouse, with its unpainted design and boys to sit up straight and treat their elders with respect; to conquer times as "always teaching little girls and boys to sit up straight and treat their elders with respect; to conquer the special pulling book; repeat the catching, never throw stones, never tell gille; the boys to write copies, and the girls to work samplers."

The first schoolmaster of whom there is any record was Mr. John Birthand of the school of the same propriation of the principal study was spelling, book; repeat the catching, never throw stones, never tell gille; the boys to write copies, and the girls to work samplers."

The first schoolmaster of whom there is any record was Mr. John Birthand of the same brick schoolhouse tremble. The principal study was spelling, brook; repeat the catching in the first schoolmaster of whom there is any record was Mr. John Birthand of the same brick schoolhouse tremble. The principal study was spelling, and the remainder to be made up by the town in 1879 it was "agreed, and woated by the town that Mr. Danill Mason shill be employed by the town in 1879 it was "agreed, and woated by the town that Mr. Danill Mason shill be employed by the town in 1879 it was "agreed, and woated by the town and woated by the town that Mr. Danill Mason shill be employed by the town that Mr. Danill Mason shill be employed by the town that Mr. Danill Mason shill be employed by the town the work of the missing of the great waters, list he will teach them to find their ways years earlier. In 1886 a Mr. John Arnold was "accepted as an inhabitant." He is spoken of as

Rev. John Sterry, was a self-taught scientific genius. He and his brother prepared a work on lunar observations and an arithmetic for schools: and Consider Sterry, with Nathan Daboli, arranged and edited a system of practical navigation which they called "The Seamen's Universal Daily Assistant."

The Hon. John T, Wait, who came to Norwich from New London after 1815, attended school in this building for a while. His first teacher was Dyar Harris, whom Miss Perkins, in her book on the Old Houses of Norwich, describes as "good-natured, addicted to aaps in school-time and to taking snuff. He used to call his ruler 'Old Goldings,' and now and then he would call out in school-hours, 'Anyone who wants to go out can do so by coming up to the desk and taking two licks from "Old Goldings," and the boys, ready enough to take the licks' for the outing, would at once present themselves. He would then give one blow with the ruler, and refuse to give the other. At times he would adjourn the whole school to the hill behind the schoolhouser to try a new gun which The Hon. John T, Wait, who came to schoolhouse to try a new gun which he had recently purchased. These practices did not meet with the approva of the parents, so his stay was short and his successor, Samuel Griswold and his successor. Samuel Griswold, was much more severe in discipline. He used to sit with his feet on the table and call the boys up to walk around it, hitting them in turn with the ruler as they made the round. Asher Smith also taught here, about 1822, and George Bliss, the latter teaching the public school at \$22 per month in winter and a private school in summer from 1823 to 1824, during a part of 1825 and 1825, and again in 1827. In 1828 he moved to the schoolhouse on the Green, but returned to 'the schoolhouse near Mr. Throop's' in 1828. Many years later Miss Goodel' taught here for several years."

In the years immediately receding and immediately following the year 1800, in addition to these opportunities for acquiring a common school education, we find mention of schools and teachers of dancing, music, embroidery and other accomplishments. The first dancing master of whom we hear was Mr. Griffiths, who held his classes in the 'house of the widow Billings," at Norwich Town. He taught 'Minuets and a Duo Minuet (which are egitively

tion, we find mention of schools and teachers of dancing, music, embroidery and other accomplishments. The first dancing master of whom we bear was Mr. Griffiths, who held his classes in the "house of the widow Billings," at Norwich Town. He taught "Minuets and a Duo Minuet (which are entirely new), Cotillion Minuet, and new Country Dances, with the real step for dancing "—all for \$6 for the first quarter, and \$4 for the second.

In The Courier of June 7, 1797, we find the following advertisement of J. C. Devero (or Devereux), spoken of as "an Irlsh gentleman of a titled family whom the war embarrassed:"

"DANCING SCHOOL,

"J. C. DEVERO.

"J. C. DEVERO. "Respectfully informs the inhabit-ants of the Town & Landing, that he purposes opening a Dancing-School, on the 12th inst., and for the accom-modation of those who are pleased to favor him with their patronage, he will keep three days of seach week in ng-price six Dollars, to be paid at the expiration of the quarter—Hours of tuition, &c., made agreeable to the

From his method of teaching, and onstant study to deserve."
Two years later he advertises as

Putnam, the son of the old general, advanced with nodding plumes to express his tender anxieties for her in the person of Lord Guilford Dudley."

A more advanced school, including in its studies Latin and Greek, mathematics and mayigation, was established in the western part of the town plot in 1782, and continued for about thirty, years. This school was under the care of an "academical association, consisting of forty-one subscribers and one

for usefulness and accomplishment."
This situation proved to be too far-from the centers of population, and was given up after two or three years. The following advertisements are taken from the files of The Courier from 1797 to 1799:

ATTENTION! Young Ladies of Norwich, awake from your sleep, it is high time to rise, and trim the lamp of life; it is now past day light, and the morning school at the Landing has begun—Look at the prize before you; it is no less than a Silver or Gold Medal for the best Scholar in Reading and Speaking.—Those young Misses who wish to run the race in this field of Ci-Speaking.—Those young alieses with wish to run the race in this field of Ciceronian honor, will please to make application in season, before this Female Society is filled—Mentinks! one single consideration will animate the rising Fair to excel and obtain this importal prize—the year thought that immortal prize—the very thought that this golden prize will be more durable than your natural life, will inspire you with redoubled ardor to gain the prize in view. Yea, your Children, and your Children's Children, shall rise up with blessings on their lips and say: This Gold Medal was an honorary prize which my Grandmother won at School when she was but a very Child.

was 1s. 3d. for each schools the higher the public that she has the branches of the Mathematics," 1s. 6d. pleasant and commodious house which per week, "for finding the Latitude, as was lately occupied by Daniel Dunper week, "for finding the Latitude, as was lately occupied by Daniel Dunper where she has opened a

Those parents or guardians, who may think proper to entrust her with the care of their Children or Wards, may rely on the strictest attention being paid to their morals and behavior; and that no endeavors will be wanting on her part, to render them perfect in all or any of the undermentioned branch--VIZ-

Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Eng. Grammar, Geography, Plain Work and Marking, per Qr. 2 dolls. Tambour, Embroidery & Dresden, 2

French, 2 do.
Drawing, 2 do.
Fillegree and Paint Work, 2 do.
Music, 10 do.
Board & Washing, 10s per week.

N. B. Mrs. Brooks takes this public method of returning her thanks for the favors she has already receiv-ed, since her arrival in Norwich.

The school advertised by Walter King was a proprietary school, estab-lished in 1797, and was held in a lished in 1797, and was held in a wooden school house above Church street, or "Third street," "back of Capt. Boswell's house," at the place afterwards occupied by the School street school house. The Rev. Walter King was the first principal, and David L. Dodge was the first regular teacher. In 1799 the school was in charge of Mr. Rufus Robbins, who also taught a night school at the rate.

pear than the school can accomi at one time.
B. SNOW, Committee-man. The sum of TWENTY CENTS will be required by the master, from each scholar, on admission, for the first quarter, for the purpose of defraying the expense of School Room and appendages—agreeably to a vote of said alaritet.

Other teachers of this school were the Rev. Thomas Williams, Mr. Scarborough, Ebenezer Witter, John Lord (president of Dartmouth college). George Hill, &c. But the teacher who retained the office for the longest time was Dyar T. Hinckley of Windham, who was master for twenty years or more, yet never removed his family to Norwich. At this time schools held invariably two sessions a day, of three hours each, with a half holiday on Saturday. In addition to this, Mr. Hinckley conducted sometimes a morning or evening school, for those who were not connected with the day school. The morning hours were from 5 o'clock to 7 a. m., and were devoted to young ladies. to young ladies.

Two years later he advertises as follows;

A boys' school, designed more espacially for classical study, and called "The Cheisea Grammar School," was established in 1807, remaining in op
and reading Plate to per
"Respectfully informs the Inhabit
"Respectfully informs the Inhabit
"Respectfully informs the Inhabitestablished in 1807, remaining in opestablished in 1807, remaining in op-

Not long before this, about the beginning of the new century, a select school for both boys and girls was opened by Pelattah Perit, who had just then graduated from Yale college, arthough still under 19 years of age. Lydia Hantley, afterwards Mrs. Sigourney, attended this school, and wheaks of Mr. Perit as "a young gentleman of superior talents, education and position in society." "The order of the school," she writes, "was perfect. The classes were excellently well taught, as were also the English studies. Among the latter I recollect geography was quite a favorite, probably because it was deepened by our construction of maps and charts in which we were strenuous for accuracy and some degree of elegance. The former we decorated by painted vignettes and devices and for the latter had immense sheets manufactured at the paper mill on surpose for us. These being divided gree of elegance. The former we decorated by painted vignettes and devices and for the latter had immense sheets manufactured at the paper mill on purpose for us. These being divided into regular parallelograms by lines of red link we wrote on their left the name of every country on the habitable globe, filling its even line of regular compartments according to their designation over the top—Length and Breadth, Latitude and Longitude, Boundaries, Rivers, Mountains, Form of Government, Population, Universities, and Learned Men, where they existed, and whatever circumstance of history was reducible to so narrow a compass."

After Mr. Perit resigned to enter business in New York, the school was taken in charge by the Rev. Daniel Haskell, a man "greatly beloved." Mr. Haskell was also a graduate of Yale, a ripe scholar, of literary taste and ability. He delighted to lead his pupils in a thoughtful study of their mother ability. He delighted to lead his pupils in a thoughtful study of their mother tongue, in the derivation of words in their delicate shades of meaning. He read to them from the best English authors, and encouraged them in the expression of their own thoughts. After leaving Norwich Mr. Haskell taught at Bacon academy, Colchester, and finally, after a few years of pastoral work, was elected president of the University of Vermont, which position he held until 1821.

nearly finety.

For fifteen years, beginning in 1885, an excellent day and family school was conducted by Dr. Claudius B. Webster, occupying for a long time the building now owned by the Arcanum

But as a whole the schools of Nor-wich at this time were in a most de-plorable condition—crowded, ungrad-ed, and offering nothing beyond the rudiments of an education. The teachers were inadequately paid, and there was little public interest in the whole matter.

As a natural result of such condi As a natural result of such conditions, private schools grew and flour-lished. At Norwich, Town we read of the Norwich Town high school, taught by L. Carly and C. K. Bushnell in 1842, and later by D. F. Gulliver, Eugene A. Hyde, and Miss Juliette F. Hyde, Also Norwich Town high school in brick building at west end of green, conducted by Rev. T. D. P. Stone, Two terms each year, including two sessions. Nor, in the multiplicity of schoolmasters, did the schoolma'am go entirely out of fashion. Miss Perkins
tells is that 'in the old Rufus Latinrop
house, later in a little building in her
own grounds, and again in the old brick
schoolhouse opposite Gager's store, and
in several other locations, Miss Sally
Goodell taught the rising generation of

conducted by Rev. T. D. P. Stone. Two
terms each year, including two sessions of 11 weeks each, beginning on
the first Wednesday in May and November. Tuition: Classical dept., \$4
per session, English dept., \$4 per session, Juvenile dept., \$3 per session.
Teachers' dept., 50 cts per week and
one hour a day devoted to Seminary
interests. sBoard may be had for \$2
per week.



VIEW OF WEST SIDE FROM CHURCH STREET IN 1860.

Norwish Town Rans on the head with I a (nimble, suspensions from the wall in bags, the tying of bashful boys to the apron strings of pretty girls, to whom they had presumed to whisper during school hours, were punishments that linger yet in the memories of some of her pupils; but though painful at the time, these were the severest penalties which her gentle nature could inflict, and her scholars seem to cherish none but tender recollections of their former teacher." Very different from Miss Sally Smith of painful memory, who flourished about the beginning of the eighteenth century, and was chiefly remembered for her success in teaching spelling and for her severity with the

At Chelsea Landing, in 1812, Misses L. Huntley and Nancy Maria Hyde opened a school for young ladles opposite the grammar school on the Little Plain. But like a number of other schools which were started at about this time, it flourished for a few years only. Between the years of 1802 and only. Between the years of 1802 and 1823 we read of Mr. Hovey, who conducted a dancing school at Mr. La-throp's hall, and at Mr. Willoby's hotel at Chelsea; of Mr. Fuller, who taught dancing—town and landing—at 3 o'clock in the afternoon for ladies and at 7 in the evening for gentlemen; of Asa Roath, who at his evening school writing.

and Second story, corner Ma
Second story, co

George T. Bromley of San Francisco speaks of Mr. Palmer as a teacher rigid and exacting, enforcing strict obedience, one of whom his pupils all stood in awe, yet loved him as a father. Mr. Bromley writes: "When the coasters, the sloops and the schooners would come home and lay up for the winter, when the boys would have the salls unbent and stored away in Deacon Story's sail loft, and when everything was made snug on board and the craft well made fast, then the jolly thing was made snug on board and the craft well made fast, then the jolly mariner would spit on his hands, turn up his sleeves, cock his head to one side and say: /Well, who's going to keep school this winter." If told it was Jo. Palmer. That'll do, would be the reply, 'then there'll be no schoolmaster thrashed this winter.' So he would pull down his sleeves, straighten up his head and inquire where was a good place to buy goose quills."

In people became convinced of the present excellent system of public schools. The "Coit lot" on Broadway was purchased in 1854, for \$5,000, a school house was built, and two years later the Broadway school was opened. The First and East Chelsea districts were united, forming the "Norwich Central Society." place to buy goose quills."

Another most excellent teacher of the first quarter of the nineteenth cen-tury was Mr. Stephen L'Hommedieu, in the schoolhouse on the hill back

Norwich Female Academy. 1 M. Caulkins, Principal, brancches; Latin and French; hands; also, Secretary and Italian, German Text, Old English, Roman and Italian Print. "The art of making clas-tic Spring Pens taught in one hour." Mr. Elisha Tucker, Mansaeld's Hall, directly opp. P. O. Sept., 1833.

Manners and Dancing. Mr. Hazen. From 2 to 5 p. b. for Ladies, and from 5 to 9 for Gentlemen. \$3,50 per quarter, with a deduction of 50 centresch Scholar, where more than attend from a family. Dec., 1833. Select School for Young Ladies, in

the Proprietors School House, cast of the Town Hall, E. B. Huntington, Tu-Landscape Drawing, Stenography, and Penmanship. Preston R. Bowen, 17 Shetucket St. Sept., 1842.

Norwich City Select School, William Herrington. Common branches \$2.00; higher branches, \$2.50 per quarter. 20

French, Bookkeeping and Writing, Mr. Hoyt. Second story, corner Main and Shetucket, over Huntington's jew-elry store. Dec., 1842.

one of these lads, says that "somehow, either by reason of what Mr. Tracy did, or because of natural gifts and

old, or occause of natural gifts and subsequent advantages, a goodly number of those looys had an honored place in the world."

In 1848 the school question was again agitated. At this time of 1,800 children of school age in the "society." more than 600 were not connected with any school applie or critate. Gradu. any school, public or private. Gradually the people became convinced of the facts, and a reaction set in which

In 1856 the upward movement of the schools culminated with the establishment of the Norwich Free Academy, founded, endowed and furnished

tion, the others being cared for by school committees. The studies are those prescribed by law for the grammar schools of the state, with such additions as may be though, advisable by the local authorities. Fully ninety per cent, of the graduates of these schools are qualified to enter the Academy, the average age of the graduates being fourteen years and six months, although a few have been much younger.

Vening schools offer an opportunity for study to those who are at work through the day, and especially to those of foreign birth who desire instruction in the English language. They have a fine teaching force and

struction in the English language. They have a fine teaching force and many scholars have been enrolled and great interest has been manifested.

Excellent schools are conducted by the Roman Catholica- in connection with St. Patrick's church on Broadway, St. Mary's church in Greeneville, and the Sacred Heart church in Taft-ville. These schools are among the first in the city, as judged by the competitive examinations for entrance to the Norwich Free Academy,

Miss Buttes's School for Girls, a boarding school, offers the best advantages for study and sensible recreation, with a regular course of studies fitting the pupils for entrance to col-

Water and Land Routes or Trails-Methods of Travel by Land and Water-The Road to New London.

In dealing with the history of any New England settlement one is constantly brought face to face with the guestion of methods of transportation. The many inventions of the past two hundred and fifty years have completely aftered our methods of moving from place to place. Civilization depends in a large measure upon rapid and easy transportation of our goods and persons. The Indians at the time of the set-tlement of Norwich had only the rudi-ments of civilization, and had but lit-ile need of methods of more rapid transportation than could be accom-plished by a swift footed runner. De-pending very larkely upon the products of funting for subsistence and cloth-ing, they had very little need for any rapid method of transportation of

ing. they had very little need for any rapid method of transportation of goods from place to place. As their communications were limited largely to matters of peace and war, their letters could all be committed to the tablets of memory of the runners war curried the messages from time to time. In traveling by water only the simplest fiethods of water transportation by came and dugout were used and on the lead the messages from the form of the repairs are completed.

"JOHN BACKUS."

"ANDREW PERKINS." tion by came and dugout were used, and on the land light packs were used. The Thames, Yartic, Shetucket and ebaug rivers were routes used by the Indians with their cances, and across the land many Indian trails existed in 1569, which were doubtless followed more or less closely by the early settlers in their development of trails and horseback routes, and the later early neits

later cart paths. The method of arrival of the early settlers from Saybrook is a questio of much interest. Undoubtedly som of the men had come over from Say brook by the Indian trail extending from the Connecticut to the Thames, and had been much impressed by the bread expanse of the East Great Plain. bread expanse of the East Great Fight.
This name came from the fact that
the plain lay cast of Saybrook. It is
hardly probable, however, that this
trail was used as a method of transportation when the families and household goods of the original proprietors
were transferred from Saybrook to

The water route down the Connec ticut, through 1000 up the Thames to the landing place.

It the head of the cove where the Fails Mill now stands is the more natural on method of transportation used in 1569 and 1660. From this old Indian landing ing the Indian trail, afterwards called an, Mill Lane and now known as Lafay-and Man's Acre, along the banks of the William W. Backus Hospital now stands. Here upon the meadows lying stands. Here upon the meadows lying between the river on the one hand the sh-litering hills on the other and the sh-litering hills on the sh-litering hills on the other and the sh-litering hills on the sh-litering hills on the other and the sh-litering hills on the straight hills on the straight hills on the solder and the road to windham.

11. "Wood's bridge, on the road to windham.

12. Lovett's bridge, and the road to his further resolved, that said.

23. Lathrop's bridge, on the road to his for the road to windham.

24. Johnson's bridge over the Sh

carly settlers were undoubtedly limited to occasional horseback trips to Say brook, Hartford, and Boston. Thes brook, Hartford, and Boston. These trips must have been undertaken only in cases of great urgency, as they must of necessity have been fraught with many difficulties and dangers. It is probable that the main route of transportation for many years was the water route on the Thames to New London where a settlement had been established fourteen years earlier. This "path to New London" was a rough the set of transletable on the books of the Shetucket, was extant at this time, with freshold the towns of Northe Shetucket, was extant at this time, with freshold the towns of Northe Shetucket, was extant at this time, with freshold the towns of Northe Shetucket, was extant at this time, with freshold the towns of Northe Whiting's bridge, named in this list, was on the road between Norwich and Woodstock, about three miles above Lathrop's bridge. Near the bridge agents, and the towns of Northe Shetucket, was extant at this time, with freshould be, and they are hereby capacitated and empowered to become subscribers by their respective agents for stock in said company, and the towns of Northe Whiting's bridge, named in this list, was on the road between Norwich and Woodstock, about three miles above Lathrop's bridge. Near the bridge are hereby capacitated and empowered to become subscribers by their respective agents for stock in said company, and the towns of Northe Whiting's bridge, named in this list, was on the road between Norwich and they are hereby capacitated and empowered to become aubscribers by their respective agents for stock in said company, and to be member of subscribers by their respective agents, and each member of said company, and to be member of subscribers by their respective agents, and cach member of said company, and to be member of subscribers by their respective agents for stock in said company, and to be member of said company. "path to New London" was a rough and winding road with a number of break-neck pitches. The "path to Connecticut" ran westward through Colchester toward Hartford and Weth-

paths, scarcely more than two or three feet broad, but with the increase in population they widened to bridelpaths, cart-tracks, carriage roads, becoming at last the post roads, along which clustered the homes of the set-

Horses were few, and so valuable for work at home that travelers must needs go by water or oil foot. The absence of bridges, oo, made horse-back travel dangerous and difficult. But foot-passengers could cross the streams by means of the fords, or on the trunks of trees thrown across at the proper places; or, in the case of the broader rivers, by cance ferries. We read of one dignified New England governor being borne across the fords on the shoulders of his Indian guide.

But gradually the settlers increased

But gradually the settlers increased their stock of horses, both by importation and by breeding, until finally incoming everyone was at home in the saddle, the women and girls as well as the men. Horses were often mide to "carry double," the women riding on philoss behind the men.

Fifteen Bridges Owned by the Town Raised for Them Construction—So

"JOSHUA BUNTINGTON. "SIMEON DREED. "JAMES ROGERS.

"Selectmen." A bridge built here in 1817 at an ex-pense of \$10,000 was descroyed five years later. It was lifted from its foundations by the flood and carried unbroken to the rapids near the mouth of the river, where it broke into three parts, and was borne out into the

Miss Caulkins gives the names of Each empty sled, team and fifteen bridges which were maintained by the town in 1750/ or about that

time.

1. Over Bradford's or Susquetomscot brook, on the road to Lebanon.

2. Great Pond brook, on the road
to Colchester.

3. Pease's brook. There were the
three branches of the Yantic.

4. At Bean Hill. 5. Quarter
bridge. 6. The Court House bridge.
7. No-Man's Acre bridge. These
1 four crossed the Yantic.

Each led or drift horse, mule, ox.

Cach person crossing on foot.

Each person crossing on foot.

The aforesald rates of toll shall not be collected from persons traveling to attend public worship, funerals, or, to town, society, or freeman's meeting and returning therefrom, officers and soldiers going to or returning from

ticut, through Long Island Sound, and four crossed the Yantic up the Thames to the landing place at the head of the cove where the Fails society (now Franklin).

14. Johnson's bridge over the chang, on the road to Plainfield.

15. Pachang bridge, east of the effect.

The stock of said company shall one bundred shares, which

which was also a house of entertainment for travelers, and which, with its horse sleds and other outlying buildings, presented the appearance of a small village. In this spot in later years has grown up the village of Eagleville.

years has grown up the village of Eagleville.

The first bridge near the mouth of
the Shetucket, leading from Chelsea
Landing to Preston, was built by
Capt. William Whiting, a resident of
what is now Norwich. In 1727 Captain
Whiting was granted a lean of £80
from the treasury of the town for the
building of this bridge, and in order
that he might meet the payment of
this lean subscriptions were opened. which clustered the homes of the set-thers. One of these, the Nipmuck Path or Trail, starting from Norwich met, possibly at Woodstock, the Old Connecticut Road or Path leading from Connecticut Road or Path leading from Land the amount of £130 was pledged for his use. It was designed for a free bridge, but sas the contractor stated that the night meet the payment of this loan subscriptions were opened, and the amount of £130 was pledged for his use. It was designed for a free bridge, but sas the contractor stated that the cost was £350, he was allowed to collect toll.

Six years later this bridge was repaired, and in 1751 a lottery was granted by the general assembly and Edgerton's bridge was constructed. It

was 200 feet long, and permission to take toll was granted by the assembly. This bridge was swept away by the freshets of 1762. The next bridge at this point is de-scribed as follows in a newspaper of the day: "June 20, 1764. Leffingwell's Bridge

The men. Horses were often indie to "carry double," the women riding on pillions behind the men.

The road to New London dates from about 1670, but what with the roughness of these carly roads and the absence of bridges there was Hithe encouragement to the use of wheeled vehicles outside the towns. In 1672

The present Laurel Hill bridge spans

Norwich citizens, under the wise and sentimentatic leadership of the Rev. John-P. Guillver. The Academy open ed with eighty pupils, and now numbers of which eighty pupils, and now numbers of which eighty pupils, and now numbers of the courses of study as first planned have been extended to include a flourishing art school and manual training department. To the original building, have been added from time to time the Slater Memorial hall, the manual training building and the chaises as much the same, but the Converse art gallery. The old Academy building, dear to the hearty and the converse art gallery. The old Academy building, dear to the hearty of the united to the past, and the coming in modern school building, alapted to the growing needs of the institution.

The public school system of Norwich today includes twelve incorporated districts, with twenty-one-schools. The converse and greeneville schools are supervised and or supervised by law for the state of the very sor sah and neways. To bring a good to the institution.

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The public school system of Norwich today includes twelve incorporated on the surface of the institution.

The public school system of Norwich today includes twelve incorporated to the schools are supervised by law to the series of the state of the stat

The act incorporating the compared authorizing the collection of reads as follows:

"Resolve Incorporating the Norwich and Preston Bridge Company, Passed, May, 1816.

Raised for Their Construction—So Expensive They Had to Be Made Toll Bridges.

The land upon which the original settlement of Norwich was made lay between the Yantic and Shetucket rivers, with brooks and small streams crossing it in all directions, so that the work of building bridges must have been commenced almost as soon as the town was laid out, for the roads could not have been opened in any direction without bridges of some description by means of which to cross these streams. Soon after the settlement of the town a horse-bridge was built across the Yantic at the west of air. Fitch's home lot, and on account of the frequent freshets it was necessary that it should be often rebuilt. All of this earlier work in constructing bridges was done as was the highway work. quent freshets it was necessary that it should be often rebuilt. All of this earlier work in constructing bridges was done, as was the highway work, by the men working together.

In April, 1717, a petition was presented to the general assembly "for assistance in building a cart bridge over Showtucket at the falls." There is no record of any assistance being granted by lottery or in any other is no record of any assistance being granted by lottery or in any other form, and this bridge was probably built in the usual way, by the inhabitants turning out together.

This bridge crossed the Shetucket just above its junction with the Quincebaug. Miss Caulkins says: "It connected Norwich proper with Newent society, in the crotch of the rivers, and the road leading from it over 0x Hill was the path by which the early inhabitants of Newent came on the Sabbath to attend religious services in the town-plot crossing the river, before the bridge was built, on a scow or ferrytoat." A bridge has been kept up at this place or near it since that

before the bridge was built, on a scow or ferryboat." A bridge has been kept up at this place or near it since that time, and has been known as Lathrop's bridge. It has been damaged and destroy'd by freshets many times, and the work of repairing and rebuilding has been almost constantly going on. The following notice appeared in the Chelsen Courier of August 15, 1793:

"The Selectmen of the town of Norwich hereby notify the inhubitants and the public—Thus-the Bridge near Mr Zeph. Lathrop's is about to be repaired, and will not be in a situation for Horses or Carriages to pass after THS DAY, until the repairs are completed.

"JOHN BACKUS.

"ANDREW PERKINS,"
"JUSHUA HUNTINGTON."

"ANDREW PERKINS,"

Each pleasure four whooled carriage,
Each stage coach or wagon, 2s
Each stage coach or wagon, 2s
Each two horse pleasure seigh, 4s
Each loaded ox waggon, or cart, 12s
Each empty ox waggon, or cart, 4s
Each loaded two horse waggon, 10s
Each compty two horse waggon, 5s
Each one borse waggon, or cart, 4s
Each loaded sled, team and
driver. 12

Each led or drift horse, mule, ox.

8. Beaver's brook, in West Farms ociety (now Franklin).
9. Trading Cove brook, on the road families, all of which persons shall be

Quinebaug.

"The stock of said company shall consist of one hundred shares, which in order by rates and highway labor. Whiting's bridge, at the mouth of the Shetucket, was extant at this time, vote for each share stand!— In the name of such member, and the said stockholders at any legal meeting, shall have power to direct by a major vote, the amount to be faid from time to time on the shares of said capital wheek

"Resolve-Passed May, 1818.

"Resolved by this Assembly, That the president and directors of said bridge company be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to contract by the year for the passing said bridge, with such persons as may apply for the same, and in case of disagreement between such applicants and said president and directors, to refer the same to the commissioners appointed on to the commissioners appointed on said bridge, whose determination shall be final and conclusive between said applicants and the president, directors and company of said bridge. Provided, that said reference be made by the mu-tual agreement of the parties."

The building of a bridge over the mouth of the Yantic river, connecting the west side of the river with Norwich Landing, was proposed in 1767 by Mr. Gershom Breed. Objections were wich Landing, was proposed in 1767 by
Mr. Gershom Breed. Objections were
made to the plan because of danger
from the high banks of the river, because the span required was longer
than that of any bridge that had been
because the communication with the
ceat side was not thought to be of
sufficient importance to justify the exponer.

Put in spite of these obje bridge was built in 1771. The "under-inkers" were Gershom Breed Bleasas. Waterman and Jonathan Lester, god the builder, Christopher Reed.